



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

### Members

Mel Katz, Chair

Matthew Hervey • Susan Atkins • Susan Lew • Judy McCarty • MaryAnne Pinter • Katie Sullivan

### MINUTES

#### BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

#### SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

### ATTENDANCE

#### Commissioners:

**Present:** Susan Atkins, Mel Katz, Matthew Hervey, Susan Lew, Judy McCarty, MaryAnne Pinter

**Absent:** Katie Sullivan

**Staff:** Anna Tatár, Library Director; Meryl Balko, Deputy Director; Esther Siman, Acting Deputy Director; Jay Hill, Director of Development; Cynthia Meinhardt, Project Officer II; Carol Young, Senior Management Analyst

**Public:** Tom Jamieson, Stan Siegel, Joy Sunyata

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the Commission Room of the Central Library.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The January 2007 minutes were approved unanimously.

### REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

### NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Joy Sunyata suggested changing the location of the bulletin board at the Central Library which displays the Board agenda. She also requested the results of the citizen's satisfaction survey.

### REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Stan Siegel

Mr. Siegel reported that the Friends are working with the Fire Marshall regarding issues at their University Heights headquarters.

The passing of Pat Shields, active volunteer with the San Carlos Friends, was noted.

**SERRA SYSTEM ADVISORY BOARD:** Tom Jamieson

The board met last month at the new National City library. It was reported that SERRA passed its annual audit. \$1,023 in travel funds will instead be used to award a small grant. The annual SERRA retreat will be May 10-11.

Mr. Jamieson gave notice that he will be stepping down as chairman of the advisory board.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**10.a Library System Update**

Cynthia Meinhart reviewed the written Capital Improvement Project Update report. New Main Library site clean-up is complete. Certified clean soil will be used to fill the excavations until construction begins.

Circulation at the new Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa facility is up by 140 percent from the former facility. Current focus is on the Children's art component.

North University Community Branch Library is about 80 percent complete. Opening day has not yet been determined due to the impact of establishing the park landscaping.

The Logan Heights project is expected to go out to bid in two to three months.

The Library funded a workshop for the Kensington-Normal Heights expansion. Fundraising will be needed to provide the remaining project cost.

A community-wide meeting will be held in May concerning the San Carlos Branch Library.

A meeting with the Mission Hills Friends will be held next week concerning plans for the new branch. Don Leonard with Mosher Drew is the architect. It will be designed as a 15,000 square foot facility with 80 underground parking spaces and the ability to expand an additional 10,000 square feet as a second story.

The San Diego Foundation has requested information about the progress of the Skyline Hills construction project.

**10.b North University Community Library Life Sciences Presentation**

Mr. Siegel handed out a profile of the community and information from Biocom on the biotech industry. A high-tech/biotech theme has been proposed. The major piece of art will be a steel tree with leaves which contain DNA coding. Collections, exhibits and art will reflect the theme. A computer lab will have 13-15 terminals, and wireless connectivity will allow for laptop

connectivity. A 12,000 square foot expansion could be accommodated if funding were available.

**Motion**

Motion made by Commissioner Pintar that the Board of Library Commissioners supports the high-tech/biotech theme for the North University Community Branch Library.  
Seconded by Commissioner Atkins.

The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hervey asked whether a classroom should be incorporated rather than a computer lab, given laptop usage. Ms. Tatár responded that building programs will be updated as library usage changes.

**CHAIR'S UPDATE:** Mel Katz

Commissioner Katz reported that Commissioner Hervey donated 700 books to the One Book One San Diego program. The kick-off event was held on January 10. A donor luncheon and an evening lecture with the author were held on January 12.

The Mayor received a letter from former Commissioner Natalie Rencher praising Library staff and commissioners.

Commissioner Katz and Library Foundation President Judith Harris met with CCDC to discuss the new Main Library.

**DEPUTY CHIEF UPDATE**

No report.

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:** Anna Tatár

- Jay Hill provided a Development Program update. The Library has met its goal of raising \$1 million for the matching funds. The Development office manager has been selected, and will begin work on March 14. The Library Foundation currently has \$1.4 million in assets, after starting the fiscal year at \$250,000. The Carnegie Society has 48 estate gifts.

Commissioner Hervey suggested that donors be asked to consider contributing funds now rather than waiting for their estates to do so. He agreed to share that message at the society's April event.

- Ms. Tatár thanked Mr. Siegel for his leadership in the planning of the North University Community Branch Library and the formation of the Friends of the Library.
- The Local Authors Reception on January 27 was very successful.

- The Central Library hosted the C-Span book truck. There is a possibility of having it back for future events. Information about their activities is available on their website at [www.booktv.org/BookTVBus/](http://www.booktv.org/BookTVBus/).
- Students conducted a demonstration of Live Homework Help at the School Board meeting last month to kick off the program. The Library is experimenting with a modified library card that allows teachers to fill out library card applications so that all students will have access to the service. This card provides students with access to electronic resources on the Library's home page and also allows them to check out up to two books, but no audiovisual materials. To have full borrowing privileges from the Library, students will be encouraged to go to their local Library and apply for a regular card which requires a parent/guardian signature.
- Poet laureate Robert Pinsky will be showing his DVD and then conducting a discussion on March 23 at the Serra Mesa Branch Library. He will be attending the poetry fair at San Diego State University on March 24.
- Clara Breed will be inducted into the San Diego County Women's Hall of Fame on March 24.
- The Changing Faces film series, a collaboration with the New Americans Immigration Museum, is taking place at the Central Library and two branch Libraries.

## **AGENDA ITEMS, Cont.**

### **10.c Budget Update**

The proposed City budget is scheduled to be released on April 13. The Library has received approval to move forward with some recommendations from the Business Process Reengineering review including the purchase of the Integrated Library System (ILS) and self-check machines at some facilities.

### **10.d Legislative Update**

SB 156, a \$4 billion State bond measure, is being considered in the State Assembly. March 28 is the first hearing on the bill. Commissioners requested that the measure be discussed at the April Commission meeting.

April 18 is Library Legislative Day.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Katz adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Tatár".

ANNA TATÁR  
Library Director

CY